

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

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COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-05
TRSE-00 FRB-01 OMB-01 L-03 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00
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DRAFTED BY EB/ITP/TEX:JJST.JOHN:HM

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COMMERCE - AGAREL

LABOR - IKRAMER

STR - MSMITH

EUR/EE - SFROMOWITZ

-----115461 152150Z /73

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 221716

GENEVA FOR PHELAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, RO

SUBJECT: TEXTILES - CATEGORY 51

1. U.S. IMPORTS FROM ROMANIA IN CATEGORY 51, WOMEN'S, MISSES AND CHILDREN'S TROUSERS, SLACKS AND OUTER SHORTS, TOTALED 36,138 DOZEN ON JULY 31. THIS REPRESENTED 92 PERCENT OF THE 39,332 DOZEN CONSULTATION LEVEL,(I.E. 700,000 SQUARE YARDS EQUIVALENT AT CONVERSION RATE OF 17.797) ----- ESTABLISHED IN PARA 3(A) OF OUR BILATERAL COTTON TEXTILE AGREEMENT. (FYI WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT LEVEL ROMANIAN SHIPMENTS IN CATEGORY 51 HAVE NOW REACHED. HOW-UNCLASSIFIED

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EVER. WE ASSUME THAT ROMANIA HAS CONTINUED SHIPPING IN THIS CATEGORY. END FYI).

2. WHEN IT APPEARS THAT A COUNTRY MAY NOT BE LIMITING ITS TEXTILE EXPORTS TO AN AGREED CONSULTATION LEVEL, THE U.S. NORMALLY ESTABLISHES IMPORT CONTROLS ON THE AFFECTED CATEGORY. BEFORE DOING SO IN THE CASE OF CATEGORY 51

WITH ROMANIA, WE WANT TO BE SURE THAT ROMANIA UNDERSTANDS THE SITUATION.

3. PLEASE INDICATE TO THE APPROPRIATE ROMANIAN OFFICIALS OUR CONCERN REGARDING POSSIBLE OVERSHIPMENTS IN CATEGORY 51. INFORM THEM THAT THE U.S. IS CONSIDERING IMPORT CONTROLS ON THAT CATEGORY AT THE AGREED CONSULTATION LEVEL. IT IS THE OBLIGATION OF THE EXPORTING COUNTRY (PARA 1 AND 3(C) OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT) NOT TO EXCEED THE CONSULTATION LEVEL WITHOUT PRIOR AGREEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES. WE ARE ASSUMING ROMANIA HAS NOT YET EXCEEDED THE LEVEL FOR CATEGORY 51. IF, HOWEVER, THE LEVEL HAS BEEN EXCEEDED, WE WOULD EXPECT ROMANIA IMMEDIATELY TO CEASE ANY FURTHER EXPORTS ABOVE THE CONSULTATION LEVEL AT THIS TIME. WE WILL DELAY ANY FURTHER ACTION UNTIL SEPTEMBER 28.

4. PLEASE ALSO NOTIFY GOR THAT CATEGORY 240 (OTHER WEARING APPAREL) WAS 84.1 PERCENT FILLED AS OF JULY 31.

5. WE HAVE RECEIVED ROMANIAN REQUESTS FOR INCREASES IN CONSULTATION LEVELS FOR SEVERAL CATEGORIES. ACCORDINGLY, IF LEVELS ARE ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOR, WE PLAN TO EXCHANGE NOTES IN WASHINGTON TO ESTABLISH FOR THE CURRENT AGREEMENT YEAR THE FOLLOWING NEW CONSULTATION LEVELS:

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MERGED CATEGORIES 45, 46, AND 47 2,900,000 SQUARE YARDS

-- EQUIVALENT

CATEGORY 62 6,000,000 SQUARE YARDS

-- EQUIVALENT

CATEGORY 63 3,000,000 SQUARE YARDS

-- EQUIVALENT

CATEGORY 104 250,000 SQUARE YARDS

-- EQUIVALENT

CATEGORY 210 2,500,000 SQUARE YARDS

-- EQUIVALENT

CATEGORY 224 5,000,000 SQUARE YARDS

-- EQUIVALENT

(CATEGORY 224 INCLUDES A NUMBER OF TSUSA NUMBERS, FOUR OF WHICH COVER ATHLETIC OR WARM-UP SUITS. THE NEW CATEGORY 224 LIMIT WILL BE SUBJECT TO A 1,500,000 SQUARE YARDS EQUIVALENT SUBLIMIT ON THE TSUSA NUMBERS COVERING OTHER THAN ATHLETIC SUITS). IMPORT CONTROLS WILL BE PLACED ON THE NEW CONSULTATION LEVELS WHEN THEY ARE ESTABLISHED. VANCE

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